

## Contents

Preface	page ix
Acknowledgments	xiii
Literary Realism: An American Mode	3
“Of Everything the Unexplained and Irresponsible Specimen”: Notes on How to Read American Realism	17
Detached Laughter in the South	27
Anodyne for the Village Virus	48
Marquand, Novelist of Manners	61
April in Queenborough: Ellen Glasgow’s Comedies of Manners	98
<i>Barren Ground</i> and the Shape of History	118
Faulkner’s August Avatars	129
The Dwarf on Wolfe’s Shoulder	144
The Southern Provincial in Metropolis	158
The <i>Bildungsroman</i> , American Style	168
Index	198